

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 010050Z OCT 74

FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5819

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

S E C R E T USUN 3560

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UNGA CB

SUBJ: KHMER IN 29TH UNGA: VIEWS OF ASEAN REPS

1. KHMER PERMREP CHHUT CHHOEUR ON EVENING OF SEP 28 TOLD US MISOFF THAT AFTER ASIAN WORKING GROUP (AWG) MEETING SEP 27, THAI PERMREP ANAND, WHO SAID HE WAS SPEAKING FOR ALL ASEAN REPS ON AWG, TOLD HIM THAT THEY CONSIDERED CHANCES FOR VICTORY ON KHMER REPRESENTATION WERE POOR. ANAND SAID THAT THE ASEAN MEMBERS OF THE AWG WOULD CONTINUE TO WORK HARD FOR GKR REPRESENTATION, BUT HE WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT CHHUT UNDERSTOOD WHAT THE AWG THOUGHT THE PROSPECTS REALLY WERE, TO INSURE THAT THERE WOULD BE NO MISUNDERSTANDING IN CASE OF DEFEAT. ANAND ADDED, SPEAKING ONCE MORE FOR THE ASEAN MEMBERS, THAT THEY FELT A DEFEAT IN THE UN WAS NOT THE END FOR THE GKR, AND THAT SPECIFICALLY THAT IT WOULD MAKE NO DIFFERENCE EITHER IN BILATERAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS OR IN THE SUPPORT FOR THE GKR BY ASEAN COUNTRIES, OR, HE BELIEVED, BY THE US.

2. CHHUT SAID THAT HE REPLIED THAT HE HAD ALWAYS KNOWN THAT HE HAD AN UPHILL FIGHT. HE STILL THOUGHT THAT THE GKR HAD A FIGHTING CHANCE TO WIN, AND WOULD CONTINUE TO WORK ON THAT ASSUMPTION. CHHUT SAID HE TOLD ANAND THAT HE APPRECIATED HIS FRANKNESS AND HIS SUPPORT.

3. CHHUT ADDED TO US MISOFF THAT HE REALLY FELT THERE

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WAS A CHANCE - BETTER THAN 40 PER CENT - TO WIN, ALTHOUGH

HE WOULD FEEL BETTER IF THE AWG COULD CONCLUDE ITS WORK
RAPIDLY. MISOFF AGREED THAT THERE WAS A HARD FIGHT AHEAD,
BUT HERE WAS CERTAINLY A CHANCE TO WIN. HE
REASSURED CHHUT OF US SUPPORT. CHHUT SAID THAT HIS
DELEGATION HAD ALREADY RECEIVED REASSURANCES FROM THE
HIGHEST LEVEL OF THE USG DURING PRESIDENT FORD'S VISIT TO
THE UN, SO HE WAS NOT WORRIED ON THAT SCORE.

4. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO REPEAT TO BANGKOK. SINGAPORE,
KUALA LUMPUR, JAKARTA AND MANILA.
SCALI

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974USUNN03560
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740276-0300
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741081/aaaacrtt.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUL 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <07 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KHMER IN 29TH UNGA: VIEWS OF ASEAN REPS
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, CB, UNGA, ASEAN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005